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Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I request the hon. the Law Member to place the information on the table of the House as soon as it is received ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I will consider it."

Levy of poundage in respect of strayed cattle in Nallajarla forest.

* 1295 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in Nallajarla forest, West Godavari district, there are scattered reserve plots in the midst of grazing areas ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the poundage collected in respect of cattle straying into the reserve plots is Re. 1 per head of cattle ;

(c) for how many years past and for what reasons the poundage imposed in the case of Nallajarla forest is Re. 1 per head of cattle ;

(d) whether the usual rate of poundage is 4 annas per head ; and

(e) whether Government will consider the desirability of reducing the poundage rate in Nallajarla forest to 4 annas ?

A.—(a) The Nallajarla reserve supplies fuel and a portion thereof is also fit for grazing. It is true that portions here and there closed to grazing are in the midst of grazing areas. This depends upon the position of the respective coupes and cannot be altered.

(b) Yes.

(c) No information is available regarding the period during which this poundage has been in force. The high rate is intended to discourage trespass as it is extremely injurious to young growth in the plantations on which depends the fuel supply to the growing municipal town of Ellore.

(d) Yes.

(e) No.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" As regards the answer to clause (c), may I know on what material the Government based this answer, namely, that growing fuel in the Nallajarla forest is necessary for fuel supply to the growing municipal town of Ellore ? Have they got information as to how much fuel is taken to Ellore and whether any fuel is taken at all ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The answer given here is based on the report of the Chief Conservator."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" Are the Government aware that the Nallajarla forest is far away and that there are forests nearer Ellore to supply fuel ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I want notice."

Jails

Introduction of hand-spinning in jails.

* 1296 Q.—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state, with reference to the answer to question No. 772 answered on 28th November 1928, whether the Government have considered the desirability of introducing cotton hand-spinning in the jails by the persons confined therein, and if so, with what result ?

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A.—With reference to supplemental question and answer to question No. 772 the Government have called for a report from the Inspector-General of Prisons as to whether it is possible to make in jails all the yarn required for jail purposes.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"May I know when this report was called for?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I do not remember."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I know whether he will call for a report as to how much yarn can be spun in the jails? It is stated here that the Inspector-General of Prisons has been asked to report whether it is possible to make in jails all the yarn required for jail purposes and not what quantity it is possible to make in jails."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I belive all that will appear in the report that I have called for."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I know the reason why the Government want to ascertain whether it is possible to make in jails all the yarn required for jail purposes for introducing cotton spinning in jails?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"The answer that was given was with reference to the question on paper."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I know whether it will not be possible, without getting the report, to introduce hand-spinning in jails, apart from the fact that all the yarn can be spun there or a portion of it only?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"No, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—"Why not, Sir?"

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I ask whether the hon. the Law Member will investigate into the matter whether hand-spinning cannot be introduced in respect of light labour prisoners?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"All that can be looked into only after the receipt of the report."

Water-supply in jails.

1297 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : With reference to the answer to my question No. 866 answered on 29th November 1928, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received the report called for; and

(*b*) what steps they propose to take to improve the quality of water-supply in jails?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes. The drinking water in every jail is chlorinated before distribution to the convicts. This chlorinated water is tested twice yearly by the Guindy Institute and reported as satisfactory. Any instruction issued by the Institute regarding the water-supply of jails is carried out.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—"May I know whether the Guindy Institute report says that the wells in all the jails except at Rajahmundry contain badly polluted water?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I want notice."